THE OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY STRATEGIES

Statewide Technical Architecture

Evergreen Strategy

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Revision Approved Date:			
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Architecture Interdependence			
Reviewer Notes - V1.0.1: Updated section B with new version control details and section D with new Principal, Standard Practice, and Standard numbering scheme. Added a hyperlink for the ETS email.			

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Office of Enterprise Technology Strategies
PO Box 17209
Raleigh, North Carolina 27619-7209
Telephone: (919) 981-5510
E-mail: ets@ncmail.net

Evergreen Strategy

A plan for the continued maintenance of the North Carolina Statewide Technical Architecture

T he purpose of the Evergreen Strategy is to define and document a plan of action to ensure that the North Carolina Statewide Technical Architecture (STA) remains up-to-date to effectively guide Information Technology (IT) decisions and meet the needs of the State enterprise.

The initial formulation of an STA domain requires a great deal of time, effort, and resources. If allowed to lapse for a significant period of time without review, an update may require a similar level of effort. However, continuous monitoring and regular updating ensures that the STA remains a living document. This approach will actually require less effort, consume less time and resources to maintain, and ensure that the STA continues to be fresh and viable to the enterprise.

Through the use of evaluation metrics it will be possible to determine to what extent the STA is properly and accurately guiding the State's IT decisions, having the desired effect, and meeting the needs of the enterprise. To satisfy these criteria, an evergreen strategy must be in place to define triggers that generate change and document control procedures for the management of the information contained therein.

Disciplined application of this strategy will ensure that the STA remains current, relevant, and a primary tool in the design and implementation of IT solutions for State government.

The following are techniques employed to guide the Technical Architects in the ongoing development and determination of the currency of each component of the STA.

A. Each Principle, Standard Practice, and Standard will be assigned to an ETS architect. The architect will review each of them and document findings based on any of the following triggers:
- An industry change.
- An indication that the Principle, Standard Practice, or Standard is not meeting the needs of the enterprise.
- An indication that a key strategic assumption is invalid.
- An indication that the Principle, Standard Practice, or Standard is not effectively guiding day-to-day IT decisions.
- An indication that the enterprise is failing to implement the strategy.
- A date. A date can be set or review will occur at a minimum of six-month intervals.

B. Each Principle, Standard Practice, and Standard will be dated and controlled by versioning with the following information:

Date Approved by IRMC:		Version:	
Revised Date:		Version:	
Revision Approved Date:			
Date of Last Review:			
Date Retired			
Architecture Interdependencies			
Reviewer Notes:			

Date Approved by IRMC – This is the date of the initial approval of the Principle, Standard Practice, or Standard. This is a fixed date and will not be altered once entered. Enter the version of the initially approved principle, best practice, or standard to the right of this field.

Revised Date – This is the date of the latest revision. Enter the version of the revision of the Principle, Standard Practice, or Standard to the right of this field.

Revision Approved Date – Enter the date of the IRMC approval of the current revision.

Date of Last Review – Enter the date of the last review of the Principle, Standard Practice, or Standard.

Date Retired: Enter the date that the Principle, Standard Practice, or Standard is retired and no longer part of the Statewide Technical Architecture. Enter the reason for the retirement of the Principle, Standard Practice, or Standard in the Reviewer Notes.

Architecture Interdependencies – Enter any interdependencies on other Principles, Standard Practices, or Standards to the current architecture domain or other domains.

Reviewer Notes – Upon conducting a review of the Principle, Standard Practice, or Standard, the reviewer must enter any notes regarding the findings of the review.

C. Version numbers will be controlled in a similar manner used for software release versioning as follows:

major.minor.correction

major: Involves a total rewrite or initial creation of a Principle, Standard Practice, or Standard. This number starts at 1.

minor: Involves minor changes but does not change the initial intent or strategy of the Principle, Standard Practice, or Standard. This number starts at 0.

correction: This is limited to typographical changes that do not change the initial intent or strategy. This number starts at 0.

D. All Principles, Standard Practices, and Standards will be enumerated in the following manner:

Element ID: domain#.technical topic#.item type#.incremental#

domain#:   Each architecture domain is numbered, the domain number is placed in the first position. This number starts at 1.

technical topic#:   Within each technology domain there are several technical topics. Each of them will be numbered sequentially and represented here. Principles relate to the entire domain, therefore a 00 will be used at this level to indicate that technical topics do not exist for a Principe item type.

item type#:   In order to uniquely identify the Principle, Standard Practice and Standard the item type must be represented. The type enumeration is: 01 – Principle, 02 – Standard Practice, 03 – Standard.

incremental#:   Each Principle, Standard Practice and Standard will include an incremental number.

Example 1: The first (incremental# = 01) standard (item type = 03) in the Wide Area Network technical topic (technical topic# = 02) of the network domain (domain# = 3) will be designated as follows:

3.02.03.01: The standard protocol technology is TCP/IP.

Example 2: The second (incremental# = 02) principle (item type = 01) in the application domain (domain# = 2) will be designated as follows:

2.00.01.02: Design applications to be highly granular and loosely coupled.